Statement PhRMA

Request for Amendment to Connecticut House Bill 6572

March 2, 2009

Position: PhRMA respectfully asks for biologics and drug and biologic packaging to also be exempted from the House Bill 6572's definition of hazardous substance. The bill exempts drugs from the definition and biologics and drug and biologic packaging are also scrutinized and approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) commends Connecticut's intent to increase protections for the safety and general welfare of Connecticut's children. PhRMA thanks the state for exempting drugs from the definition of hazardous substance. We respectfully ask for an amendment to HB 6572 to also exempt biologics and the packaging of drugs and biologics from the definition of hazardous substance.

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) severely scrutinizes all materials used as ingredients in or in the production of medicines, or the packaging of medicines, whether intended for use by humans or animals, for both their safety and effectiveness. All prescription drug products and biologics (including the packaging) for children have been reviewed by the FDA.

Because FDA governs prescription medicines, biologics, and packaging and requires pharmaceutical companies to provide much information about the safety and effectiveness of drugs, biologics, and packaging (e.g., FDA requires feasibility studies for packaging), we respectfully request the exemption of biologics and the packaging of drugs and biologics from this bill.